The US Government stated that it was taking the step in recongnition of the progress in their dialogue with India.

Recently, the US did not obstruct approval of a World Bank loan for infrastructure and power development in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

Four projects worth US $1.236 billion which were negotiated and ready for World Bank Board approval, have been deferred.

Agreement with Pakistan

1003. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Pakistan has signed an agreement not to resort to firing on residential areas at borders and also to exchange information relating to smuggling activities across the border;

(b) if so, when such an agreement was signed; and

(c) whether the agreement is being honoured in letter and spirit by Pakistan Government?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) Pakistani forces resort to unprovoked firing at the International Border and the Line of Control in Jammu & Kashmir. They also cause casualties by targeting civilian areas during the course of such unprovoked firing. While our forces respond suitably to Pakistani firing, India has, through the agreed and established channels, repeatedly urged Pakistan to restrain its forces from firing accross the border and the LOC.

Mechanisms have been established at governmental and operational levels for co-operation in combating drug trafficking. The Home Secretary of India and the Interior secretary of Pakistan discuss the subject of terrorism and drug Trafficking within the composite dialogue process. The Revenue Secretary of India also has discussions with the Secretary Narcotics Control Division of Pakistan on the control of drug trafficking and smuggling.

Withdrawal of Sanctions

1004. SHRI KARNEDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the sanctions, which were imposed on India by the U.S. after Pokharan test;

(b) the details of the sanctions which have since been withdrawn;

(c) whether any further sanctions have been withdrawn after the visit of Dy. Secretary of the States to our country recently; and

(d) if not, whether the talks with the Dy. Secretary of the States were successful?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) The US imposed restrictive economic measures on India under the Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Act 1994 (NPPA), popularly known as the Glenn Amendment, on May 13, 1998. These measures were:

- Termination of assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, except for humanitarian assistance for food or other agricultural commodities.

- Termination of sales of defence articles, defence services, or design and construction services under the Arms Export Control Act, and termination of licences for the export of any item on the United States Munitions List.

- Termination of all foreign military financing under the Arms Export Control Act.